

## IHSEPP / CKS conferences

### CINEMATIC FORCES OF MODERNITY AND TRADITION IN *អនឺលស្រ្យីអន* (AN EUIL SREY AN) 1972

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#### **Abstract:**

*អនឺលស្រ្យីអន* (*An Euil Srey An*) is a 1972 popular film from the Cambodian Golden Age of Arts directed by the Golden Age director Ly Bun Lim. During the 1990's, *អនឺលស្រ្យីអន* resurfaced in various Cambodian communities in the United States and helped imagine a particular moment of Cambodia for diasporic Cambodian refugee children. In this presentation, Phally Chroy will investigate the film's thematics that shaped a "mythos" of Cambodia for Cambodian refugees and Cambodian-Americans to examine memory and popular culture as a force of "encapsulation" and mythmaking.

This presentation contextualized critical theory and methodological approaches that analyzes memory theory, reporting how individuals construct narratives through a reading of personal history and popular culture. The presentation will be based on textual and visual analysis of "Khmerness", instances of cultural references to Khmer notions of religion, mythology, arts, etc., and recording their appearances in the film. The data collected was juxtaposed with current scholarship on Cambodian-American identity for analysis and critique from memory research from sociology and current publication on Cambodia-American identity.

**Biodata:** Phally Chroy is a Ph.D. candidate in Interdisciplinary Arts at Ohio University. His research covers Cambodia, cosmopolitanism, and critical theory.